however, the consistent stand of RBI has been that large,scale capital expenditure to be incurred by public sector undertakings in constructing infrastructural facilities such as dams, bridges, roads, electricity generation and supply, etc. Whether for creation of fresh facilities or for replacement/ modernisation of existing ones, should be funded from the budgetary resources of the concerned State, or the Centre, as the case may be. The State Government has already been apprised of the above views of RBI.

Phasing out of tax and credit concession to Small Scale Industries

1277. SHRI GAYA SINGH :
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to stop gradually all tax and credit concessions to Small Scale Industries; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) and (b) In view of the ensuing Budget-1993-94 it is not possible to offer any comments at this stage.

Corruption in tax administration

1278. SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that wide spread tax evasion is flourishing due to laxity and corruption in the tax administration;

(b) if so, what effective measures are being implemented and contemplated to eliminate the scope of corruption and inefficiency in tax administration;

(c) whether there is any proposal to formulate steps to simplify and rationalise the existing tax system; and

(d) if so, what measures are taken or are proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OFrSTATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) A strong vigilance machinery takes effective steps to enforce preventive vigilance in certain corruption prone areas. Investigations/inquiries are .made, in specific cases of alleged corruption. Cases involving inquiries from non-departmental parties are often referred to CBI for investigations. The provisions of FR *56j* are also invoked whenever necessary.

There are adequate supervisory controls to ensure effective tax administration which are periodically reviewed.

(c) and (d) The simplification and rationalisation of the Direct Taxes system is an ongoing process and appropriate measures are taken from time to time to simplify and rationalise direct taxes.

विदेशी मुद्रा बचाने के लिए उठाए गए कदम

1279. श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार द्वारा विदेशी मुद्रा के संकट को ध्यान में रखते हुए इसे बचाने और इसके उचित उपयोग के लिए पिछले कुछ वर्षों से अनेकों उपाय किए गए हैं ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है :

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि जुलाई, 1991 से सितम्बर 1992 तक सरकार द्वारा किए गए उपायों के परिणामस्वरूप विदेशी मुद्रा का दुरुपयोग रोक कर काफी मात्रा में इसकी बचत की गई है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इसके परिणामस्वरूप बचाई गई विदेशी मुद्रा की अनुमानित राशि कितनी है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री रामेश्वर ठाकुर) : (क) और (ख) जी हां। पिछले कुछ वर्षों के दौरान सरकार ने विदेशी मुद्रा बचाने और इसके समुचित इस्तेमाल

के लिए अनेक उपाय किए थे । संकट की सीमा और तीव्रता के आधार पर इन उपायों को अनेक बार कार्यान्वित किया गया और तदनुसार उनकी समीक्षा की गई । इनमें आयात नीति में परिवर्तन करके आयातों में कमी करने के उपाय, आयातों के लिए भुगतान हेतु नकद मार्जिन की अपेक्षाएं, पूंजीगत वस्तुओं के लिए विदेशी मुद्रा की बिक्री पर प्रतिबंध विदेशी मुद्रा बजट आबंटनों की उच्चतम सीमा मूल्य रचना एवं राजकोषीय और मौद्रिक नीति परिवर्तनों के माध्यम से मांग नियंत्रण शामिल हैं ।

(ग) और (घ) जी, हां । जुलाई, 1991 से सितम्बर, 1992 के दौरान सरकार द्वारा किए गए महत्वपूर्ण उपायों ने विदेशी मुद्रा बचाने में सहायता की है । विनिमय दर में समुचित समायोजन उदारीकृत विनिमय दर प्रबंध प्रणाली व्यापार नीति में प्रक्रियात्मक सरलीकरण और उदारीकरण और विदेशी मुद्रा विनियमन अधिनियम में परिवर्तनों ने विदेशी मुद्रा में गैरकानूनी लेन-देनों को कम करने में सहायता की है । तथापि, इन उपायों के परिणामस्वरूप बचाई गई विदेशी मुद्रा की मात्रा बताना संभव नहीं है ।

Shares and debentures held by officials

1280. SHRI RAM GOPAL YADAV : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some top Bank Officers, Income-tax Officers and PSU officials held shares and debentures in leading private sector companies;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that even the members of family of many of them hold shares and debentures in these companies; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) Yes, Sir. It is possible that some top Bank Officers, Income-tax Officers and PSU officials held shares and debentures in leading private sector companies;

(b) Such details are not collected since there is no bar on officers holding shares/ debentures.

(c) Yes, Sir. It is possible that the members of the family of officials hold shares and debentures in these companies.

(d) Such details are not collected since there is no bar on the family members of these officers holding shares and debentures in the numberous issues of the various companies.

Implication of Chelliah Committee proposals on VAT

1281. SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA : SHRI SARADA MOHANTY : SHRIMATI MSRA DAS : SHRI MOHD. KHALEBLUR RAHMAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the advantages or disadvantages of VAT i.e. Value Added Tax, proposed by the Chelliah Committee has been assessed;

(b) if so, what are the implications thereof;

(c) whether VAT would avoid cascading effect of excise and sales tax on the raw, semi-finished and finished articles in the same branch;

(d) the countries that have introduced VAT;

(e) what is the extent to which VAT would enhance or reduce the revenue in the long term and help economic growth, reduce cost and curb corruption; and

(f) whether Government have decided to substitute this tax ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR) : (a) to (f) In view of the ensuing budget for 1993-94, it is not considered desirable in public interest to indicate Government's views in this matter at this stage. VAT is in operation in the U.K., France, Germany,